

Message Text

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17

ACTION DLOS-04

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 ACDA-07 AGR-05 AID-05 CEA-01

CEQ-01 CG-00 CIAE-00 CIEP-01 COME-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00

EB-07 EPA-01 ERDA-05 FMC-01 TRSE-00 H-02 INR-07

INT-05 IO-11 JUSE-00 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 NSF-01

OES-06 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-04 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

SAL-01 FEA-01 AF-06 ARA-06 EUR-12 NEA-10 OIC-02 /154 W
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R 060437Z APR 76

FM AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3018

INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

US MISSION UN NEW YORK 669

CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L KUALA LUMPUR 1972

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PLOS, MY

SUBJECT: LOS--MALAYSIA CHANGES ITS MALACCA STRAIT POSITION

REF: USUN 1351 (DTG 021352Z APR 76)

1. MINISTER OF LAW AND ATTORNEY GENERAL TAN SRI KADIR BIN YUSOF
TOLD AMBASSADOR APRIL 5 THAT MALAYSIA IS NOW PREPARED TO ACCEPT
FREE PASSAGE OF THE MALACCA STRAIT THROUGH A CENTER, DELINEATED
CORRIDOR. KADIR SAID THAT THE WIDTH OF THE CORRIDOR HAD NOT
YET BEEN DETERMINED BUT THAT MALAYSIA WOULD AGREE TO WHATEVER
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IS DECIDED BY STRAITS STATES. HE INDICATED THAT MALAYSIA'S

PRINCIPAL CONCERN IS TO ENSURE SOVEREIGNTY IN WATERS IMMEDIATELY CONTIGUOUS TO ITS SHORES SO AS TO BE IN A POSITION TO CONTROL THE ENTRANCE OF VESSELS, PERSONS AND GOODS.

2. KADIR ALSO STATED THAT THE INDONESIANS HAD AGREED TO ACCEPT AN INTERNATIONALLY DETERMINED CORRIDOR BETWEEN THE EAST COAST OF PENINSULAR MALAYSIA AND SARAWAK THROUGH THE ANAMBAS AND NATUNAS ISLANDS. HE ADDED THAT A BILATERAL TREATY BETWEEN MALAYSIA AND INDONESIA WOULD EXPAND ON MALAYSIAN RIGHTS OF FREE PASSAGE AND OVERFLIGHT.

3. COMMENT. KADIR IS THE GOVERNMENT'S PRINCIPAL SPOKESMAN ON LOS ISSUES. HERETOFORE, HE HAS INDICATED COMPLETE INFLEXIBILITY ON THE ISSUE OF PASSAGE THROUGH THE STRAIT, CLAIMING THAT FREE PASSAGE WOULD INHIBIT MALAYSIA'S RIGHT TO GOVERN TRAFFIC AND POLLUTION IN ITS INTERNAL WATERS. PRESUMABLY THIS CHANGE REFLECTS ON AGREEMENT BETWEEN INDONESIA AND MALAYSIA RELATED TO SHIFTS IN JAKARTA'S POSITION ON ARCHIPELAGOS.

UNDERHILL

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